REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, Claims 18-23 were pending in this application. By way of this amendment, Claims 33-35 are added. Hence, Claims 18-23 and 33-35 are presently pending in this application.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

By this amendment, multiple-dependent Claims 33-35 are added to claim embodiments of the invention as recited in the method Claims 18-23 in valid alternative formats.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the pending claims (18-23 and 33-35) present patentable subject matter over the references of record, and are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner has questions regarding this case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

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Ser. No. 09/886,851-Conley-June 20, 2001 GAU 2171 (E. Leroux) Attorney Docket No. 50325-0553 (Seq. No. 4494)

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortages in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313=1450

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